

Richmond County

Richmond County is one of the original headright counties acquired from the Creek Indians by treaty in 1733 and organized as the colonial Parish of Saint Paul in 1758. There was a trading post established at the head of navigation on the Savannah River, Richmond County's eastern border, in 1735. The following year General James Oglethorpe built a fort to protect the post on the site of Augusta. At the time of the Revolution, the parish became Richmond County, named to honor the Duke of Richmond who had defended in Parliament the colonists' cause and who had earlier advocated their independence. Augusta, the county seat, was named for the wife of the Prince of Wales, the Princess Augusta. Augusta was the state capital from 1785 until 1795. Originally Richmond County included Glascock, Columbia, and McDuffie counties plus parts of Warren and Jefferson. Richmond became the seventh county in order of creation.

There was fighting in and around Augusta several times during the Revolutionary War. The city was captured by the British in the spring of 1780. A temporary stronghold known as Fort Grierson and commanded by British Light Colonel James Grierson was headquarters for the occupation. It was located at the present junction of Eleventh Street and Reynolds Street within the city.

The following September, Colonel Elijah Clarke and a band of Patriots tried to recapture the town. They drove British troops and their Indian allies into the White House, a large trading post built in 1758 and operated by Robert McKay. A four-day siege ensued, and, with the British troops on the point of surrender, reinforcements arrived to drive the Patriots away in haste. Twenty-nine of their wounded were left behind and thereafter denied the normal conventions of capture. To please the wounded British Colonel Thomas Brown, thirteen of the Americans were hanged in the stairwell of the White House so he "could watch their dying." The others were handed over to the Indians for torture and eventual death. Treatment given the captured Americans was apparently in the minds of Clark's Patriot forces the following summer when, together with General Andrew Pickens and Colonel "Light Horse" Harry Lee, they retook the town. British Colonel Grierson who was captured with his men was shot by an unknown Georgia rifleman while a prisoner.

In 1845 and 1846 the city constructed the Augusta Canal, running nine miles. It was early evidence of the community's interest in industrial development.

Augusta figured prominently in the development of the railroad industry, as the home of the Georgia railroad - chartered in the 1830's. The first railroad in Georgia, and only the third on the country, the Georgia railroad ran from Augusta to Athens and opened up

commerce throughout the region.

Source: Foundations of Government - The Georgia Counties, Association County Commissioners of Georgia, 1976.

News In This County

Congressman Barrow Announces \$300,000 FAA Grant for Augusta's Daniel Field Airport

May 9, 2007

Washington, DC

- Augusta Congressman John Barrow (Georgia - 12th District) today announced that Daniel Field airport has been awarded a \$300,000 grant by the Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Rep. John Barrow and Local Officials to Host Town Hall Meeting in Augusta on the City's Emergency Preparedness

October 19, 2005

As

communities across the country begin to take a closer look at their emergency preparedness and evacuation plans in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Augusta Congressman John Barrow (12th District), along with other area officials, will host a town hall meeting in downtown Augusta this coming Monday to help inform local citizens about the City's response plans in the event of an emergency or natural disaster.

Augusta's Medical College of Georgia Awarded \$2,086,000 in NIH Grants

April 26, 2006

Washington DC -

Georgia Congressman John Barrow (12th District) announced today that the Medical College of Georgia (MCG) in Augusta has been awarded three federal grants from the National Institutes of Health, totaling \$2,086,000. The grants will help fund specific medical research and disease prevention projects currently being conducted at MCG by Dr. Vadivel Ganapathy, Dr. Yanbin Dong, and Dr. Joseph Cannon.

Rep. Barrow Announces \$228,435 Grant for Paine College

April 8, 2005

Washington, DC

- 12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) today announced that Paine College will receive a \$228,435 grant from the U.S. Department of Education for the college's Student Support Services (SSS) Program. SSS programs provide tutoring and counseling services to low-income and disadvantaged students working to earn their college and university degrees.

Congressman Barrow Announces Upcoming Hospital Health Care Tour

February 15, 2007

Starting

on Monday, February 19, Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) will kick off a four-day tour of ten area hospitals that play a vital role in serving the medical needs of Georgia's 12th Congressional District, with stops in Savannah, Statesboro, Claxton, Vidalia, Millen, Swainsboro, Sandersville, Milledgeville, Louisville, and Augusta.

Barrow Urges the Energy Department to Continue Funding for the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory

March 28, 2007

Washington, DC -

In a letter to U.S. Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman, 12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) today urged the Energy Department to restore funding for the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL), located on the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS). Federal funding for the lab is due to run out next month.

Augusta-Richmond

County Community Partnership for Children and Families Receives \$1,120,000 Grant to Help Improve Access to Perinatal Healthcare

May 25, 2005

Washington, DC -

12th District Congressman John Barrow announced today that the Augusta-Richmond County Community Partnership for Children and Families (ARCCP) has been selected to receive a \$1,120,000 grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. The money will help fund the

Partnership's Healthy Start Program, which works across the Augusta area to help reduce infant mortality rates and eliminate existing disparities in perinatal health.

Congressman John Barrow Pays Tribute to State Representative Henry Howard

October 6, 2005

Washington, DC -

On Thursday evening, Augusta area Congressman John Barrow (Georgia-12th District) paid his final respects to the late State Representative Henry Howard. In a speech delivered on the floor of the United States House of Representatives, Barrow praised Howard as a leader "who always served his hometown with dignity, compassion, and an endless supply of love and good will."

Augusta Fire Department Awarded \$120,000 Homeland Security Grant

December 8, 2005

Washington, DC -

12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) announced today that the Augusta Fire Department has been awarded a \$120,000 grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP). The grant helps provide for additional training and personal protective equipment.

Augusta's Daniel Field Awarded a \$112,095 Federal Transportation Grant

March 15, 2006

Washington, DC -

Georgia Congressman John Barrow (12th District) today announced that Augusta's Daniel Field has been awarded a \$112,095 grant from the Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Augusta's Medical College of Georgia to Receive \$773,420 Educational Grant

July 6, 2005

Washington,

DC - 12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) announced today that the Medical College of Georgia (MCG) is slated to receive a \$773,420 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, part of the National Institutes of Health. Spread out over the next five years, the money will help support postdoctoral fellows and graduate students studying neurodegenerative disease and neural repair at the state's health sciences university.

Barrow Announces an Additional \$2 Million in Funding for Augusta Regional Airport

June 14, 2006

Washington, DC -

Georgia Congressman John Barrow (12th District) announced today that the House of Representatives has approved an additional \$2,000,000 in funding for the Augusta Regional Airport. The money, requested by Congressman Barrow, was included in the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act that passed the House of Representatives earlier today.

Congressman Barrow to Help Seniors Avoid the Medicare Drug Benefit's May 15th Penalty

May 4, 2006

One

week before the Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit enrollment period is scheduled to end, Augusta Congressman John Barrow (12th District) will join with a representative from Georgia Cares at the St. John's Retirement Center on Monday May 8th to discuss the looming May 15th enrollment deadline, and to help answer any questions seniors have about signing up. As the law is currently written, anyone who signs up for the Medicare Drug Plan after the May 15th deadline will be forced to pay higher monthly premiums for their drug coverage.

Congressman Barrow Announces Upcoming Veterans Town Hall Tour

February 14, 2006

Washington, DC -

12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) wants to hear from veterans across the 12th District. Starting on Tuesday, February 21st, Rep. Barrow will launch a three-day Veterans Town Hall Tour with 8 public forums planned in Athens, Augusta, Warrenton, Louisville, Waynesboro, Sylvania, Savannah, and Statesboro.

Congressman John Barrow Introduces the "Anthony DeJuan Boatwright Act"

June 28, 2006

Washington, DC -

12th District Georgia Congressman Barrow (D-Savannah) was today joined by Augusta child care advocate Jacqueline Boatwright to introduce new legislation to help make sure every parent receives accurate information about whether or not their child's daycare provider has liability insurance - so that parents have all the information they need to choose a day care center that's best for their family.

Congressman Barrow Announces \$150,000 Grant for Daniel Field Airport

March 8, 2005

Washington, DC

- 12th District Representative John Barrow (D-GA) today announced that Daniel Field Airport in Augusta will receive a \$150,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation - helping fund runway maintenance, security and safety enhancements, and parking improvements.

Augusta Regional Airport to Receive \$2,500,000 in Funding for New Passenger Terminal Construction

November 18, 2005

Washington, DC -

The United States House of Representatives today approved a request from Augusta Congressman John Barrow (12th District) for \$2,500,000 to help pay for the construction of Augusta's new airport passenger terminal. The money was included in the Conference Report on the Transportation, Treasury, HUD, Judiciary, and District of Columbia Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006, which passed the House by an overwhelming vote of 392-31.

Barrow: "Don't Cut Immigration Enforcement Funds for State and Local Police"

March 16, 2006

Washington, DC -

Outraged by the recently proposed funding cuts to a vital federal initiative that reimburses state and local law enforcement agencies for the costs of incarcerating criminal illegal aliens, Georgia Congressman

John Barrow (12th District) today called on the House Budget Committee to fully fund the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP).

Barrow Seeks to Add New Federal Rail Safety Standards to Homeland Security Bill

May 17, 2005

Washington, DC -

As the U.S. House of Representatives prepares to consider this year's Homeland Security Authorization Bill, 12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) today called on Congress to amend the bill to include tough new rail security measures that would help better protect local communities from the shipment of extremely hazardous materials.

Barrow Asks House Appropriations Committee to Consider Renewed Funding for the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory

June 19, 2007

Washington, DC -

During today's debate on the 2008 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, 12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) urged fellow Representative Peter Visclosky, the Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to work with his colleagues on the committee to restore funding for the Savannah River Ecology Lab (SREL).

Augusta Airport Awarded \$4,186,443 in Federal Transportation Grants

March 3, 2006

Washington, DC -

Augusta Congressman John Barrow (12th District) announced today that Augusta Regional Airport has been awarded \$4,186,443 in federal grants from the Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration. The funding, most of which was requested by Congressman Barrow, will help cover ongoing construction costs for the airport's new passenger terminal and improve the airport's existing facilities.

House Approves \$350,000 in Federal Funds for Augusta Canal

May 19, 2006

WASHINGTON, DC -

The U.S. House of Representatives yesterday passed the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2007, which included a request by 12th District Congressman John Barrow for \$350,000 in funding for the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area.

Congressman John Barrow to Host Medicare Prescription Drug Workshop in Augusta

February 28, 2006

On

Monday, March 6th, Augusta Congressman John Barrow (12th District) will host a Medicare Prescription Drug Workshop in Augusta to answer questions and address concerns about the new Medicare Prescription Drug Program - Part D.

House Approves \$400,000 in Federal Funds for Augusta Canal

May 20, 2005

WASHINGTON -

Yesterday, the House of Representatives passed the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2006. In doing so, the House approved a request from 12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) for money to improve the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area.

Barrow Announces Abstinence Education Grant

September 30, 2005

Augusta, GA -

12th District Congressman John Barrow announced today that "Choose Success", a teen pregnancy prevention program run by Communities in Schools of Augusta-Richmond County inc, will be receiving a grant of \$405,978 to fund the program for the next year. Communities in Schools will administer this grant in partnership with the Medical College of Georgia.

House Approves an Additional \$1,500,000 for Augusta Regional-Bush Field Airport

July 26, 2007

Washington, DC -

The U.S. House of Representatives this week approved a request by 12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) for an additional \$1,500,000 to help fund ongoing construction of the airport's new terminal building. The money was included in the FY '08 Appropriations Bill for the Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development.

Barrow Announces House Approval of \$300,000 for Augusta Area Flood Damage Reduction and Prevention

May 25, 2005

Washington, DC -

The U.S. House of Representatives late last night passed the 2006 Energy & Water Development Appropriations Bill. Included in the measure was a request by 12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) for \$300,000 to fund the completion of the Army Corps of Engineers' feasibility study of Raes Creek. The money will also be used to initiate the "Preconstruction, Engineering, and Design," or PED phase, of the proposed flood control measures along the Augusta Canal and Rocky Creek basins.

Augusta

Fire Dept. Battalion Chief Steven Bell Calls on Congress to Provide Better Training and More Funding for First Responders

June 13, 2006

Washington, DC -

At the invitation of Georgia Congressman John Barrow (12th District), Augusta Fire Department Battalion Chief Steven Bell today testified before the House Transportation Subcommittee on Railways about the steps he believes the federal government should take to help local communities and local first responders better prepare and adequately train for the possibility of future railway accidents involving hazardous materials.

House Approves \$300,000 in Funding for the Augusta Brownfield Commission

June 14, 2006

Washington, DC -

The U.S. House of Representatives today approved \$300,000 in funding for the Augusta Brownfield Commission. The funding, requested by 12th

District Georgia Congressman John Barrow, will help the commission's redevelopment efforts for the newly cleaned Hyde Park section of Augusta.

Rep. John Barrow Announces \$750,000 in Funding for Augusta Flood Prevention

May 25, 2006

Washington, DC -

12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow announced today that \$750,000 in funding for the Army Corp of Engineer's ongoing Oates Creek Flood Control Project in Augusta was included in the FY '07 Energy & Water Appropriations Act, which passed the House of Representatives late last night by a vote of 404-20.